

Executive Registry

03-7394

DDI-5044-73

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NSC Referral Not  
Required

SECRET

December 3, 1973

National Security Decision Memorandum 240

TO: The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
The Secretary of the Treasury  
The Secretary of Commerce  
The Secretary of the Interior  
The Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee

SUBJECT: Organizational Session of U. N. Law of the Sea  
Conference

Under cover of memorandum of November 1, the Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee forwarded for the President's consideration recommended instructions for the U. S. Delegation to the organizational session of the U. N. Law of the Sea Conference.

Having taken the proposed instructions into account together with subsequent U. N. developments relating to the conference, the President has directed that the U. S. Delegation should have as its objective adoption of rules and procedures by the organizational session which will promote a timely and successful law of the sea conference accommodating the United States' oceans policy interests. The Delegation is to ensure that the voting arrangements adopted by the organizational session will permit the conference to proceed in a manner best suited to the attainment of U. S. interests, guarding in particular against arrangements allowing for premature substantive voting which might be harmful to those interests.

In keeping with the directives of NSDM 225, the Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee is requested to forward recommended instructions

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for the U.S. Delegation to the June-August 1974 session of the  
Law of the Sea Conference no later than March 30, 1974 for  
consideration by the President.

*H. A. Kissinger*

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Secretary of Transportation  
Director, National Science Foundation  
Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Assistant to the President for International Economic Affairs

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